

## chicago park district

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October 24, 2001

Ms. Erma Tranter
Executive Director
Friends of the Parks
55 East Washington Street
Suite 1911
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Re: DuSable Park

Dear Ms. Tranter:

I am responding to your letter, dated September 24, 2001. addressed to the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners regarding the abovereferenced matter.

The Chicago Park District is not in the position to include the development of DuSable Park in the 2002 Capital Budget. The reason for removing the development of DuSable Park from our 2001 Capital Budget is not "inexplicable" as you allege in your letter.

In fact, there are serious environmental concerns at the site of the future DuSable Park. The USEPA has identified three "hot spots" that must be further tested and analyzed. Therefore, we have been working very closely with the USEPA to make sure the contamination at the site is properly tested, evaluated and eliminated prior to any further development.

If the USEPA determines that the contamination does not run very deep (less than two feet), the contaminated soil can just be removed. Thus, the Chicago Park District would anticipate park development in 2003. If, however, the testing identifies contamination deeper than two feet there will need to be further testing to determine the extent of the contamination and more extensive remediation plans. To date, we have not received conclusive results from the USEPA.



If you have any further questions on this matter, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Colleen Rock Mueller Lakefront Director

cc: Commissioner Bob Pickens Superintendent David Doig

Joan Fencik, General Counsel Drew Becher, Chief of Staff

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Bob Megquier, Director of Planning and Development

Angie Amores, Press Secretary

Eleanor Roemer, Friends of the Parks